Non-availability of half-tickets at Asansol Railway Station

2837. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that half-tickets are not available at Asansol Railway Station;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to prevent recurrence of such a situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Half (child) tickets are available at Asansol.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Empowered Claims Committee

2838. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Public Grievances has recommended that each Regional Railway should have an Empowered Claims Review Committee;

(b) if so, the main functions of the contemplated Review Committee; and

(c) what is the reaction of Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To review decisions in compensation claim cases on appeal by the claimants.

(c) Existing policy and procedures already provide for review of cases by higher officers on appeal. Therefore, the setting up of the proposed Claims Review Committee will be a duplication of the arrangements. Besides, Railway Claims Tribunals are being set up shortly to consider appeals filed by claimants against the decisions of the Railway Administration.

ITDC Hotel at Madras

2839. SHRI PASUMPON THA KIRUTTINAN:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state whether Government have taken any decision to set up an India Tourism Development Corporation hotel at Madras?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVARAJ PATIL): ITDC's Annual Plan 1989-90 does not envisage construction of a hotel of its own in Madras. However, ITDC proposes to set up a joint venture Hotel in Madras in collaboration with State Government Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation subject to allotment of land and mutual settlement of joint venture terms.

Widening of National Highways

2840. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have cleared the proposal for widening of National Highway in the country;

(b) if so, what are the National Highway which have been approved for widening; and